

## Public Notice – Environmental Project

### PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in the City of Newport News, Virginia.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

January 7, 2014 to January 28, 2014

### TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Certification

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal permitting activity to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

### NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The City of Newport News has submitted a Joint Permit Application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) for the issuance of an individual permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to make improvements to the Lee Hall Reservoir Dam in the City of Newport News. Accordingly, on May 20, 2013, Newport News submitted a Federal Consistency Certification (FCC) to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the proposed improvements in accordance with the *Federal Consistency Regulations* of the Coastal Zone Management Act. DEQ completed a coordinated review of the FCC and responded to Newport News with the Commonwealth's concurrence on July 24, 2013 (DEQ 13-104F). However, the project involves work that was not included in the 2013 FCC related to the restoration of 1,400 linear feet of a degraded stream channel. The restoration of the stream channel will serve as mitigation to offset impacts associated with work at the dam. The stream channel, Baptist Run, is a tributary of the Lee Hall Reservoir, and is located in York County. The restoration will involve the application of Natural Channel Design Principles to include raising the elevation of the streambed to improve connectivity with the floodplain, and creating a channel form that is balanced with watershed inputs and capable of maintaining itself over time. Accordingly, Newport News has submitted a FCC that finds the proposed stream channel restoration consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

### HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

### CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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